

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 04325 122132Z

72

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-10 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 SNM-02 SY-05 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03

OMB-01 /052 W

----- 104347

P R 122020Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8568

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY QUITO

DEA HQS WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA 4325

E O 11652 NA

TAGS SNAR CO

SUBJ: US CUSTOMS OP THUNDERBOLT

REF BOGOTA 3606, 2532; STATE 59120, DEA 6800

1. MISSION HAS RECEIVED VIA DEA CHANNELS COPY OF PLAN FOR US CUSTOMS OP THUNDERBOLT AIMED AT INTERDICTING NARCOTICS AND OTHER TRAFFICKING CARRIED ON BY CREWS GRANCOLOMBIANA LINES VESSELS. PLAN, DATED APR 15, INDICATES THAT OP IS ALREADY UNDERWAY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION OF THIS.

2. IF IT IS IN EFFECT, MISSION BELIEVES AS INDICATED, THAT WE MUST INFORM GOC AND IN PARTICULAR DAS, WHOSE AGENTS REGULARLY WORK UNDER COVER ON GRANCOLOMBIANA LINES SHIPS- OF BASIC OUTLINES OP THUNDERBOLT. THIS IN ORDER MAINTAIN OUR CREDIBILITY AND OPERATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS LATELY STRAINED BY NARE INCIDENT AND NY TIMES SERIES ON NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING IN LA.

3. AS DEPT KNOWS QUESTION WAS RAISED, SUBJ TO OVERALL USG COORDINATION, AS TO SANCTIONS THAT WOULD BE APPLIED AGAINST GRANCOLOMBIANA LINES IN THE CASE OF APPREHENSIONS OF TRAFFICKERS ON
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 04325 122132Z

INCOMING GRANCOLOMBIANA VESSELS, RANGING FROM FINES TO PERHAPS

CONFISCATION. OP THUNDERBOLT DOES NOT COVER THIS ASPECT.
WHAT IS THE PLANNING IN THIS REGARD AND WHAT IS USG POSITION?
AS DEPT KNOWS VERY SENSITIVE FACTORS ARE INVOLVED, INCLUDING
ELEMENT THAT SOME GOC INTEREST OBTAINS IN FLOTA GRANCOLOMBIANA
WHICH RAISES QUESTIONS OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY IN CONNECTION WITH
ANY PROPOSED CONFISCATION OF VESSELS. WE BELIEVE IT ESSENTIAL
AS WELL TO INFORM THE GOC OF WHAT USG RPT USG POLICY IS TO BE IN
THIS REGARD SO THEY CAN BE FULL FOREWARNED.

4. ACTION REQUESTED:

A) THAT DEPT CONFIRM THAT OP THUNDERBOLT IS IN EFFECT.

B) THAT WE BE GIVEN AUTHORIZATION TO BRIEF DAS AND OTHER GOC
AGENCIES AS APPROPRIATE ON GENERAL OUTLINE AND RUDIMENTS OF OP.

C) THAT WE BE INFORMED OF US POLICY REGARDING SANCTIONS AGAINST
GRANCOLOMBIANA AND WHETHER PHASED PLAN OF IMPOSING SANCTIONS HAS BEEN
AGREED UPON AND IF SO WHETHER IT IS IN EFFECT.

VAKY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG TRAFFIC, DRUG CONTROL, STEAMSHIP LINES, SECURITY CONTROLS, OPERATION THUNDERBOLT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BOGOTA04325
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: UPGRADED PER MEMO P830007-0583
Executive Order: R9 19880731 MCMANAWAY, C E
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P830007-0586, D750165-0866
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750559/aaaacazh.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: LOU
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: UNCLASSIFIED; CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LOU
Reference: 75 BOGOTA 3606, 75 BOGOTA 2532, 75 STATE 59120, 75 2532, 75 DEA 6800
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US CUSTOMS OP THUNDERBOLT
TAGS: SNAR, CO, US, DEA, FLOTA MERCANTE GRANCOLOMBIANA
To: STATE CARACAS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006